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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/528,432

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Eric Ganci

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EXAMINER

LANDRUM, EDWARD F

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3724

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

12/27/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/528,432

Applicant(s)

GANCI, ERIC

Examiner

Edward F. Landrum

Art Unit

3724

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 36-65 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 36-65 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Examiner would like to point out that claim 55 is in improper form as an independent claim cannot be dependent on another claim. Therefore claim 36 is not being read into claim 55.

2. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

3. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 36-54 are drawn to a method requiring the separation of the mask from the sheet mater and/or support.

Group II, claim(s) 55 and 56 are drawn to a mask with a slitted outline.

Group III, claims(s) 57-65 are drawn to an apparatus with holder means.

If applicant elects Group I, applicant must also elect between the following groups:

Group IV, claim(s) 37 is drawn to cutting out the mask in an uninterrupted manner.

Group V, claim(s) 38 and 39 are drawn to a displacement speed for the cutting tool.

Group VI, claim(s) 40 and 41 are drawn to the use of a display device.

Group VII, claim(s) 42 is drawn to the material speed.

Group VIII, claim(s) 43 and 44 are drawn to four axis movement of the cutter element.

Group IX, claim(s) 45 is drawn to a ratio between the length of a connecting portion to the length of the mask outline.

Group X, claim(s) 46 is drawn to sheet material property measurement.

Group XI, claim(s) 47 is drawn to pneumatic suction.

Group XII, claim(s) 48 is drawn to presser rollers.

Group XIII, claim(s) 49 is drawn to the sheet material being in the form of a roll.

Group XIV, claim(s) 50 is drawn to only cutting a single thickness of sheet material at a time by means of a blade.

Group XV, claim(s) 51 is drawn to an amount of time required to cut out a mask.

Group XVI, claim(s) 52 is drawn to the outline of the cut mask being set back from the outline of the portion of the vehicle the mask is protecting.

Group XVII, claim(s) 53 is drawn to one or more slits cut from the edge of the mask.

Group XVIII, claim(s) 54 is drawn to printing a mark on the mask.

If applicant elects Group III, applicant must also elect between the following groups:

Group XIX, claim(s) 58 is drawn to means to cause discontinuous cutting.

Group XX, claim(s) 59 is drawn to a downwardly curved table.

Group XXI, claim(s) 60 is drawn to suction orifices.

Group XXII, claim(s) 61 is drawn authorizing the cutting or holder means.

Group XXIII, claim(s) 62 is drawn to a program for cutter tool displacement.

Group XXIV, claim(s) 63 is drawn to adjusting means.

Group XXV, claim(s) 64 is drawn to an optical sensor.

Group XXVI, claim(s) 65 is drawn to means for inputting data.

4. The inventions listed as Groups I-XXVI do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

The method of Group I does not require the mask to have a slitted outline as set forth in Group II, or a holding means as set forth in Group III. The product of Group II does not require separating the mask from the sheet material as set forth in Group I, or holding means as set forth in Group III. The apparatus of Group III does not require separating the mask from the sheet material as set forth in Group I, or the mask having a slitted outline as set forth in Group I.

The method set forth in Group IV does not require the specific displacement speed for the cutting tool as set forth in Group V, using a display device as set forth in Group VI, a specific material speed as set forth in Group VII, the cutter having four axis movement as set forth in Group VIII, a specific ratio between the length of a connecting portion to the length of the mask outline as set forth in Group IX, sheet material property measurement as set forth in Group X, pneumatic suction as set forth in Group XI, presser rollers as set forth in Group XII, the sheet material being in the form of a roll as set forth in Group XIII, cutting only a single thickness of the sheet material at a time as set forth in Group XIV, a specific amount of time to cut the mask as set forth in Group

XV, the outline of the cut mask being set back from the outline of the portion of the vehicle the mask is protecting as set forth in Group XVI, one or more slits cut from the edge of the mask as set forth in Group XVII, or printing a mark on the mask as set forth in Group XVIII. The method set forth in Group V does not require cutting the mask in an uninterrupted manner as set forth in Group IV, using a display device as set forth in Group VI, a specific material speed as set forth in Group VII, the cutter having four axis movement as set forth in Group VIII, a specific ratio between the length of a connecting portion to the length of the mask outline as set forth in Group IX, sheet material property measurement as set forth in Group X, pneumatic suction as set forth in Group XI, presser rollers as set forth in Group XII, the sheet material being in the form of a roll as set forth in Group XIII, cutting only a single thickness of the sheet material at a time as set forth in Group XIV, a specific amount of time to cut the mask as set forth in Group XV, the outline of the cut mask being set back from the outline of the portion of the vehicle the mask is protecting as set forth in Group XVI, one or more slits cut from the edge of the mask as set forth in Group XVII, or printing a mark on the mask as set forth in Group XVIII. The method set forth in Group VI does not require cutting the mask in an uninterrupted manner as set forth in Group IV, the specific displacement speed for the cutting tool as set forth in Group V, a specific material speed as set forth in Group VII, the cutter having four axis movement as set forth in Group VIII, a specific ratio between the length of a connecting portion to the length of the mask outline as set forth in Group IX, sheet material property measurement as set forth in Group X, pneumatic suction as set forth in Group XI, presser rollers as set forth in Group XII, the sheet

material being in the form of a roll as set forth in Group XIII, cutting only a single thickness of the sheet material at a time as set forth in Group XIV, a specific amount of time to cut the mask as set forth in Group XV, the outline of the cut mask being set back from the outline of the portion of the vehicle the mask is protecting as set forth in Group XVI, one or more slits cut from the edge of the mask as set forth in Group XVII, or printing a mark on the mask as set forth in Group XVIII. The method set forth in Group VII does not require cutting the mask in an uninterrupted manner as set forth in Group IV, the specific displacement speed for the cutting tool as set forth in Group V, using a display device as set forth in Group VI, the cutter having four axis movement as set forth in Group VIII, a specific ratio between the length of a connecting portion to the length of the mask outline as set forth in Group IX, sheet material property measurement as set forth in Group X, pneumatic suction as set forth in Group XI, presser rollers as set forth in Group XII, the sheet material being in the form of a roll as set forth in Group XIII, cutting only a single thickness of the sheet material at a time as set forth in Group XIV, a specific amount of time to cut the mask as set forth in Group XV, the outline of the cut mask being set back from the outline of the portion of the vehicle the mask is protecting as set forth in Group XVI, one or more slits cut from the edge of the mask as set forth in Group XVII, or printing a mark on the mask as set forth in Group XVIII. The method set forth in Group VIII does not require cutting the mask in an uninterrupted manner as set forth in Group IV, the specific displacement speed for the cutting tool as set forth in Group V, using a display device as set forth in Group VI a specific material speed as set forth in Group VII, a specific ratio between the length of a

connecting portion to the length of the mask outline as set forth in Group IX, sheet material property measurement as set forth in Group X, pneumatic suction as set forth in Group XI, presser rollers as set forth in Group XII, the sheet material being in the form of a roll as set forth in Group XIII, cutting only a single thickness of the sheet material at a time as set forth in Group XIV, a specific amount of time to cut the mask as set forth in Group XV, the outline of the cut mask being set back from the outline of the portion of the vehicle the mask is protecting as set forth in Group XVI, one or more slits cut from the edge of the mask as set forth in Group XVII, or printing a mark on the mask as set forth in Group XVIII. The method set forth in Group IX does not require cutting the mask in an uninterrupted manner as set forth in Group IV, the specific displacement speed for the cutting tool as set forth in Group V, using a display device as set forth in Group VI a specific material speed as set forth in Group VII, the cutter having four axis movement as set forth in Group VIII, sheet material property measurement as set forth in Group X, pneumatic suction as set forth in Group XI, presser rollers as set forth in Group XII, the sheet material being in the form of a roll as set forth in Group XIII, cutting only a single thickness of the sheet material at a time as set forth in Group XIV, a specific amount of time to cut the mask as set forth in Group XV, the outline of the cut mask being set back from the outline of the portion of the vehicle the mask is protecting as set forth in Group XVI, one or more slits cut from the edge of the mask as set forth in Group XVII, or printing a mark on the mask as set forth in Group XVIII. The method set forth in Group X does not require cutting the mask in an uninterrupted manner as set forth in Group IV, the specific displacement speed for the cutting tool as set forth in

Group V, using a display device as set forth in Group VI a specific material speed as set forth in Group VII, the cutter having four axis movement as set forth in Group VIII, a specific ratio between the length of a connecting portion to the length of the mask outline as set forth in Group IX, pneumatic suction as set forth in Group XI, presser rollers as set forth in Group XII, the sheet material being in the form of a roll as set forth in Group XIII, cutting only a single thickness of the sheet material at a time as set forth in Group XIV, a specific amount of time to cut the mask as set forth in Group XV, the outline of the cut mask being set back from the outline of the portion of the vehicle the mask is protecting as set forth in Group XVI, one or more slits cut from the edge of the mask as set forth in Group XVII, or printing a mark on the mask as set forth in Group XVIII. The method set forth in Group XI does not require cutting the mask in an uninterrupted manner as set forth in Group IV, the specific displacement speed for the cutting tool as set forth in Group V, using a display device as set forth in Group VI a specific material speed as set forth in Group VII, the cutter having four axis movement as set forth in Group VIII, a specific ratio between the length of a connecting portion to the length of the mask outline as set forth in Group IX, sheet material property measurement as set forth in Group X, presser rollers as set forth in Group XII, the sheet material being in the form of a roll as set forth in Group XIII, cutting only a single thickness of the sheet material at a time as set forth in Group XIV, a specific amount of time to cut the mask as set forth in Group XV, the outline of the cut mask being set back from the outline of the portion of the vehicle the mask is protecting as set forth in Group XVI, one or more slits cut from the edge of the mask as set forth in Group XVII, or

printing a mark on the mask as set forth in Group XVIII. The method set forth in Group XII does not require cutting the mask in an uninterrupted manner as set forth in Group IV, the specific displacement speed for the cutting tool as set forth in Group V, using a display device as set forth in Group VI a specific material speed as set forth in Group VII, the cutter having four axis movement as set forth in Group VIII, a specific ratio between the length of a connecting portion to the length of the mask outline as set forth in Group IX, sheet material property measurement as set forth in Group X, pneumatic suction as set forth in Group XI, the sheet material being in the form of a roll as set forth in Group XIII, cutting only a single thickness of the sheet material at a time as set forth in Group XIV, a specific amount of time to cut the mask as set forth in Group XV, the outline of the cut mask being set back from the outline of the portion of the vehicle the mask is protecting as set forth in Group XVI, one or more slits cut from the edge of the mask as set forth in Group XVII, or printing a mark on the mask as set forth in Group XVIII. The method set forth in Group XIII does not require cutting the mask in an uninterrupted manner as set forth in Group IV, the specific displacement speed for the cutting tool as set forth in Group V, using a display device as set forth in Group VI a specific material speed as set forth in Group VII, the cutter having four axis movement as set forth in Group VIII, a specific ratio between the length of a connecting portion to the length of the mask outline as set forth in Group IX, sheet material property measurement as set forth in Group X, pneumatic suction as set forth in Group XI, presser rollers as set forth in Group XII, cutting only a single thickness of the sheet material at a time as set forth in Group XIV, a specific amount of time to cut the mask as

set forth in Group XV, the outline of the cut mask being set back from the outline of the portion of the vehicle the mask is protecting as set forth in Group XVI, one or more slits cut from the edge of the mask as set forth in Group XVII, or printing a mark on the mask as set forth in Group XVIII. The method set forth in Group XIV does not require cutting the mask in an uninterrupted manner as set forth in Group IV, the specific displacement speed for the cutting tool as set forth in Group V, using a display device as set forth in Group VI a specific material speed as set forth in Group VII, the cutter having four axis movement as set forth in Group VIII, a specific ratio between the length of a connecting portion to the length of the mask outline as set forth in Group IX, sheet material property measurement as set forth in Group X, pneumatic suction as set forth in Group XI, presser rollers as set forth in Group XII, the sheet material being in the form of a roll as set forth in Group XIII, a specific amount of time to cut the mask as set forth in Group XV, the outline of the cut mask being set back from the outline of the portion of the vehicle the mask is protecting as set forth in Group XVI, one or more slits cut from the edge of the mask as set forth in Group XVII, or printing a mark on the mask as set forth in Group XVIII. The method set forth in Group XV does not require cutting the mask in an uninterrupted manner as set forth in Group IV, the specific displacement speed for the cutting tool as set forth in Group V, using a display device as set forth in Group VI a specific material speed as set forth in Group VII, the cutter having four axis movement as set forth in Group VIII, a specific ratio between the length of a connecting portion to the length of the mask outline as set forth in Group IX, sheet material property measurement as set forth in Group X, pneumatic suction as set forth in Group XI,

presser rollers as set forth in Group XII, the sheet material being in the form of a roll as set forth in Group XIII, cutting only a single thickness of the sheet material at a time as set forth in Group XIV, the outline of the cut mask being set back from the outline of the portion of the vehicle the mask is protecting as set forth in Group XVI, one or more slits cut from the edge of the mask as set forth in Group XVII, or printing a mark on the mask as set forth in Group XVIII. The method set forth in Group XVI does not require cutting the mask in an uninterrupted manner as set forth in Group IV, the specific displacement speed for the cutting tool as set forth in Group V, using a display device as set forth in Group VI a specific material speed as set forth in Group VII, the cutter having four axis movement as set forth in Group VIII, a specific ratio between the length of a connecting portion to the length of the mask outline as set forth in Group IX, sheet material property measurement as set forth in Group X, pneumatic suction as set forth in Group XI, presser rollers as set forth in Group XII, the sheet material being in the form of a roll as set forth in Group XIII, cutting only a single thickness of the sheet material at a time as set forth in Group XIV, a specific amount of time to cut the mask as set forth in Group XV, one or more slits cut from the edge of the mask as set forth in Group XVII, or printing a mark on the mask as set forth in Group XVIII. The method set forth in Group XVII does not require cutting the mask in an uninterrupted manner as set forth in Group IV, the specific displacement speed for the cutting tool as set forth in Group V, using a display device as set forth in Group VI a specific material speed as set forth in Group VII, the cutter having four axis movement as set forth in Group VIII, a specific ratio between the length of a connecting portion to the length of the mask outline as set forth

in Group IX, sheet material property measurement as set forth in Group X, pneumatic suction as set forth in Group XI, presser rollers as set forth in Group XII, the sheet material being in the form of a roll as set forth in Group XIII, cutting only a single thickness of the sheet material at a time as set forth in Group XIV, a specific amount of time to cut the mask as set forth in Group XV, the outline of the cut mask being set back from the outline of the portion of the vehicle the mask is protecting as set forth in Group XVI, or printing a mark on the mask as set forth in Group XVIII. The method set forth in Group XVIII does not require cutting the mask in an uninterrupted manner as set forth in Group IV, the specific displacement speed for the cutting tool as set forth in Group V, using a display device as set forth in Group VI a specific material speed as set forth in Group VII, the cutter having four axis movement as set forth in Group VIII, a specific ratio between the length of a connecting portion to the length of the mask outline as set forth in Group IX, sheet material property measurement as set forth in Group X, pneumatic suction as set forth in Group XI, presser rollers as set forth in Group XII, the sheet material being in the form of a roll as set forth in Group XIII, cutting only a single thickness of the sheet material at a time as set forth in Group XIV, a specific amount of time to cut the mask as set forth in Group XV, the outline of the cut mask being set back from the outline of the portion of the vehicle the mask is protecting as set forth in Group XVI, or one or more slits cut from the edge of the mask as set forth in Group XVII.

The apparatus of Group XIX does not require a downwardly curved table as set forth in Group XX, suction orifices as set forth in Group XXI, authorizing the cutting or holder means as set forth in Group XXII, a program for cutting tool displacement as set

forth in Group XXIII, adjusting means as set forth in Group XXIV, an optical sensor as set forth in Group XXV, or means for inputting data as set forth in Group XXVI. The apparatus of Group XX does not require means to cause discontinuous cutting as set forth in Group XIX, suction orifices as set forth in Group XXI, authorizing the cutting or holder means as set forth in Group XXII, a program for cutting tool displacement as set forth in Group XXIII, adjusting means as set forth in Group XXIV, an optical sensor as set forth in Group XXV, or means for inputting data as set forth in Group XXVI. The apparatus of Group XXI does not require means to cause discontinuous cutting as set forth in Group XIX, a downwardly curved table as set forth in Group XX, authorizing the cutting or holder means as set forth in Group XXII, a program for cutting tool displacement as set forth in Group XXIII, adjusting means as set forth in Group XXIV, an optical sensor as set forth in Group XXV, or means for inputting data as set forth in Group XXVI. The apparatus of Group XXII does not require means to cause discontinuous cutting as set forth in Group XIX, a downwardly curved table as set forth in Group XX, suction orifices as set forth in Group XXI, a program for cutting tool displacement as set forth in Group XXIII, adjusting means as set forth in Group XXIV, an optical sensor as set forth in Group XXV, or means for inputting data as set forth in Group XXVI. The apparatus of Group XXIII does not require means to cause discontinuous cutting as set forth in Group XIX, a downwardly curved table as set forth in Group XX, suction orifices as set forth in Group XXI, authorizing the cutting or holder means as set forth in Group XXII, adjusting means as set forth in Group XXIV, an optical sensor as set forth in Group XXV, or means for inputting data as set forth in

Group XXVI. The apparatus of Group XXIV does not require means to cause discontinuous cutting as set forth in Group XIX, a downwardly curved table as set forth in Group XX, suction orifices as set forth in Group XXI, authorizing the cutting or holder means as set forth in Group XXII, a program for cutting tool displacement as set forth in Group XXIII, an optical sensor as set forth in Group XXV, or means for inputting data as set forth in Group XXVI. The apparatus of Group XXV does not require means to cause discontinuous cutting as set forth in Group XIX, a downwardly curved table as set forth in Group XX, suction orifices as set forth in Group XXI, authorizing the cutting or holder means as set forth in Group XXII, a program for cutting tool displacement as set forth in Group XXIII, an optical sensor as set forth in Group XXV, or adjusting means as set forth in Group XXIV.

5. This application contains claims directed to more than one species of the generic invention. These species are deemed to lack unity of invention because they are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

The species are as follows:

- Species A - The embodiment shown in Figures 1 and 3.
- Species B - The embodiment shown in Figures 2, 4, and 7.
- Species C - The embodiment shown in Figure 11.

Applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single species to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The reply must also identify the claims readable on the elected species, including any claims

subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered non-responsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

6. The claims are deemed to correspond to the species listed above in the following manner:

Claims 55-57 and 61-65 read on Species A.

Claims 36-42, 45, 50-53, 55-58, 62, 63, and 65 read on Species B.

Claims 36-45, 47-53, 55-60, 62, 63, and 65 read on Species C.

The following claim(s) are generic: At least claim 57 appears to be generic.

7. The species listed above do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, the species lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

Species A discloses an apparatus with an optical sensor.

Species B discloses a flat cutting table.

Species C discloses a sloped cutting table.

8. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the

requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions or species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

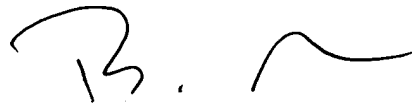
9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edward F. Landrum whose telephone number is 571-272-5567. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer Ashley can be reached on 571-272-4502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

EFL

12/21/2007



BOYER D. ASHLEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER